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A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The time and labour involved in the collection of this information will not be commensurate with the results and so the Government regret they are unable to furnish this information.

Admission in the Secondary Training Schools.

10 *Q.*—Sri B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many students were admitted into the various Secondary Grade Training Schools in each district of the Province communitywar during the last twelve years; and

(*b*) how many of them have completed their training course?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The labour and time involved in the preparation of this information will not be commensurate with the result and so the Government regret that they are not able to furnish the information.

III.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* CLOSURE OF SCHOOL AT MAYAVARAM.

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, I rise to move for the adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance."

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I have no notice, Sir."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" I gave you (Chairman) notice, Sir. Rule 37 says that notice should be given to the President and not to the Leader of the House. Let the Hon. Leader of the House read the rule."

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I am only informing you, Sir, that I have not received any notice."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, the rules provide that I should give notice only to the President."

Mr. CHAIRMAN :—" Notice must also be given to the Government. Government have not received any notice. That is not proper." 3-30 p.m.

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" Under the rules, notice to the Government is not at all necessary. What is required is notice to the President."

Mr. CHAIRMAN :—" The Hon. the Minister concerned must also know."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, rule 36 says :

' A motion for an adjournment of the business of the Council for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance may be made with the consent of the President.'

Then, Sir, rule 37 says:

'The right to move the adjournment of the Council for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance shall be subject to the following restrictions, etc.'

I may say, Sir, that one of these is not that the notice should be given to the Government. Then, Sir, rule 38 says:

'A member desirous of moving a motion for an adjournment of the business of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance shall, before the commencement of the sitting of the Council at which he proposes to ask for leave of the House to make his motion, hand to the President a written statement of the matter proposed to be discussed and obtain his consent to his asking for such leave to make the motion.'

This I have done. I have handed over to the President a written statement of the matter proposed to be discussed in this House before the commencement of the sitting of the Council, and the Chairman himself has seen it.

"Then, rule 39 says says:

'After receiving such consent, leave of the Council to make the motion may be asked for after questions and before the list of business for the day is entered upon.'

And rule 40 says:

'If the President is of opinion that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, he shall read the statement to the House and ask whether the member has the leave of the House. If objection is taken, . . .'

"In this case, Sir, I am trying to assist the Government in getting a chance to explain their position with regard to this matter. I, therefore, hope that exception will not be taken. But, if my expectation is defeated, then the rule continues: 'If objection is taken, the President shall request those members who support the motion to rise in their places, and if eight or more members rise accordingly, (now, Sir, eight members are ready on this side of the House) the President shall intimate that the member has the leave of the House and that the motion will be taken up at 4 p.m. the same day. If less than eight members rise, the President shall inform the member that he has not the leave of the House. A motion which fails to obtain the requisite support shall not during the same session be brought up again under rule 36.' Therefore, Sir, no other adjournment motion can be brought during this session if this motion falls through. Then Sir, rule 41 says: 'The debate on a motion to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, if not earlier concluded shall automatically terminate at 6 p.m. and thereafter no question can be put.' Therefore, there are difficulties also if this motion is not allowed. The motion is in order and the matter is one which is agitating the minds of all ladies in the Presidency. . ."

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THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The hon. Member is talking on the motion which is not yet before the House. He can only point out the rules for pressing his adjournment motion and not go into the merits of the question."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I am only explaining the rules, Sir."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The hon. Member should not go into the merits of the case."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" May I ask the Chairman when the notice of the adjournment motion was handed to you, Sir? "

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" I received it at 2-30 p.m." the

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" May I have a copy of the adjournment motion? "

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" You can have it."

THE HON. DR. T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" May I say just a few words to help the discussion on this question, Sir? "

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" The Hon. Minister may say whether he objects to the motion or not. If he objects, he can say why he objects, but he has no option to rise up in his seat to oppose the motion at this stage. First of all, the President must say whether the motion can be taken up at 4 p.m. to-day."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" Therefore, the hon. Member wants me to ban the Education Minister from speaking. The Leader of the House or the Education Minister can speak on the matter."

* THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, it is not my purpose to withhold any information. I am prepared to place all the information at the disposal of the Government before the House. It is not as if we are shirking our responsibility in this matter and are evading to give information on the matter. But, I must say that no definite action has been taken by the Government in the matter. The adjournment motion should be to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance and it must be a matter over which Government have issued orders. In this particular case, Government have not issued any orders. The Retrenchment Committee made certain recommendations but no orders have been issued on those recommendations and no notices have been given to any staff in any school and no schools were closed. I can give this information straightaway. No orders have been issued either by the Government or by the Director of Public Instruction to close any schools. Even if the municipalities are prepared to take over those schools, it could not be done immediately without any orders of Government. As I said already,

Government have not come to a conclusion in the matter. Therefore, there is no matter of urgency before the House and therefore, no question of adjournment motion arises because there is no definite matter before the House. We are prepared to place all the available information on the matter before the House. There is no fear on the part of the Government to give information on the matter but there is no information because Government have not come to any conclusion on that matter. Since there is no matter of definite public importance, the adjournment motion does not arise."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, I rise on a point of order. The matter must be one of urgent public importance. After all, what is the notice given by my hon. Friend? Again, the rule says that he should give a written statement about the motion. In the motion it is mentioned that it is about the reported closure of the Girls' School at Mayavaram. There is no closure so that there is no matter for discussion. The motion states that it is only reported closure of Girls' High School at Mayavaram. The closure is only reported closure and there is no actual closure of the school. The Retrenchment Committee made certain suggestions. Government have not taken any action on those suggestions and no notices were given. Since there is no closure of the school and since there is no notice at all, the adjournment motion is out of order."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The matter does not exist. Therefore, a matter of urgent importance cannot exist."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" It is a matter of importance and I say that this is the appropriate time to debate over this matter. It is a matter which is agitating the minds of the public and I do not see any reason why the Government should feel shy to enlighten the public and the people at large about this matter and say what steps they propose to take on the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee. . . "

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" In the face of the explanation given by the Government, I feel, there is no urgency in the matter and therefore, leave cannot be granted."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Then, may I request you to allow an half hour debate on this matter under rule 14 of the rules? The proviso to rule 14 says :

' That on notice given to the President at question time, the President may, in his discretion, allow half an hour after 5 p.m., or after the conclusion of the business of the day, whichever is earlier, to enable a member to raise a debate on any matter of urgent importance which has been the subject of a question on that day. No division shall be taken on such debate and such time shall not be available for the transaction of any other business.'

Sir, I think this is a matter which agitates the public mind, as has been pointed out in a letter written by the Women's Association. Moreover, a question was answered earlier in the day on

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this subject and therefore, you can grant leave to discuss this subject under rule 14. It will also give an opportunity to the Hon. the Education Minister to explain the position and quote statistics. If the Government want to satisfy the public on this matter, if they really want to give any information to the public who are agitated over this matter, they can take this opportunity of having a discussion under rule 14."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" You have already disallowed the adjournment motion, Sir. The same arguments will apply to this also. The hon. Member is harping upon the same question. The Education Minister just now said that there was no closure of any school. If my hon. Friend says that the report has got currency and the ladies got agitated over this question and that is the reason why he wants to raise a discussion in this House, then I say to him that he wants to raise a discussion only on imaginary fears. Moreover, Sir, all the available information, the Hon. Minister has given, and in an half-hour debate, it will not be possible for the hon. Member to adequately deal with the matter and it will not also be possible for the Government to reply to it. Therefore, Sir, as an half-an-hour debate on this matter will not be of any use and it will only inconvenience the members, I request you not to allow it."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" The same principles which applied for refusing the adjournment motion apply here also. In addition, let me state that in an half-an-hour debate, it is not enough if the Leader of the Opposition alone speaks. The Government have got to reply also and for that purpose, half an hour is not enough. The Hon. the Education Minister stated that no orders have been issued and the Leader of the House says there is no urgency in the matter. Therefore, I think the half-an-hour debate is unnecessary."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I will speak for only five minutes."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, several of us have got other engagements. We have got a Cabinet meeting at 5-15 p.m. and therefore, we cannot be here to carry on the debate after the House rises at 5 p.m. We are prepared to take up the question any other day."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I ask for an assurance that before the Government takes up a final decision in this most important matter, they will consult both the Houses and take the sense of both the Houses of the Legislature? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I cannot speak here for the other House. If the hon. Gentleman wants, Government are prepared to have an half-an-hour debate on this question, of which the hon. Member is so anxious. We shall find some time for that purpose."

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ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Sir, we certainly realize the importance of the Cabinet meetings. But, Sir, not less is the importance of the meetings of the Legislature."

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" Is it on the topic that we have now decided which the hon. Member is speaking? It is now closed and there is no need to discuss the subject further. The Hon, the Finance Minister will now present the Supplementary Statements of Expenditure for the year 1947–48."

IV.—SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENTS OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1947–48.

3-45 p.m. THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Sir, I present the Demands for Grants for further expenditure and detailed supplementary estimates thereof for the year 1947–48.

" Copies of the demands have been laid on the Table of the House.

" As the House is aware, two batches of Demands for Grants for further expenditure and the connected detailed supplementary estimates for this year were presented to the Legislature in September and December last. Those demands related to schemes of expenditure which were treated as 'new services' and the approval of the Legislature was obtained to the schemes by asking for token grants only. The present statement is the third and final one for this year.

" As explained in the introductory memorandum to the supplementary statement of demands for grants, the present statement includes mostly demands on account of the insufficiency of the original grants concerned for expenditure on standing sanctions based on existing orders and commitments. Some demands for expenditure on new services sanctioned late in the current year and for which no supplementary grants have yet been presented are also included.

" There are 31 Demands pertaining to the Revenue Account involving a total sum of Rs. 96,39,300 under Charged expenditure and Rs. 7,57,07,800 under Voted expenditure. Under other expenditure (i.e., capital outlay and loans and advances) there are 7 Demands involving a total sum of Rs. 34,600 under Charged expenditure and Rs. 5,09,36,100 under Voted expenditure. The number of demands and the amount would have been much smaller but for the fact that as a consequence of the transfer of power on the 15th August 1947 some items of expenditure mainly the pay, allowances and pensions of the officers previously appointed by the Secretary of State for India which were till then treated as charged expenditure have become votable from that date, as I have already explained in my budget speech. Corresponding to the increased expenditure under 'Voted' in this account, there are savings in the original appropriation under 'Charged,' but, under the rules, no reappropriation can be made